



# THE COLONIAL VILLAGE

A Guide to the  
Buildings of  
Historical  
Interest

AT A CENTURY OF PROGRESS/CHICAGO-1934

ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY

# THE COLONIAL VILLAGE

*A Reproduction of Early  
American Life in the  
Thirteen Colonies*

A Guide  
to the Buildings of  
Historical Interest

BY THOMAS E. TALLMADGE  
ARCHITECT OF THE VILLAGE



*At A Century of Progress, Chicago*  
1934



*Paul Revere's House*



## THE COLONIAL VILLAGE



HE COLONIAL VIL-  
LAGE ATTEMPTS  
TO REPRODUCE  
THE FORM AND  
THE SPIRIT OF A  
TYPICAL AMERI-  
CAN COMMUNITY

as it might have been found at about the end of the Revolutionary War. To add to the historic and architectural interest it has assembled about its Village Green and placed along its principal street some of the most famous buildings of Colonial days. In order that the whole may be harmonious many of the buildings have been reduced in size and some changed in form, but in each case it is hoped that the character has been maintained. With only a few exceptions it is the exterior only which imitates the ancient buildings; the interiors are arranged to suit the needs of the different concessionaires who,

111 East Liberty

882705

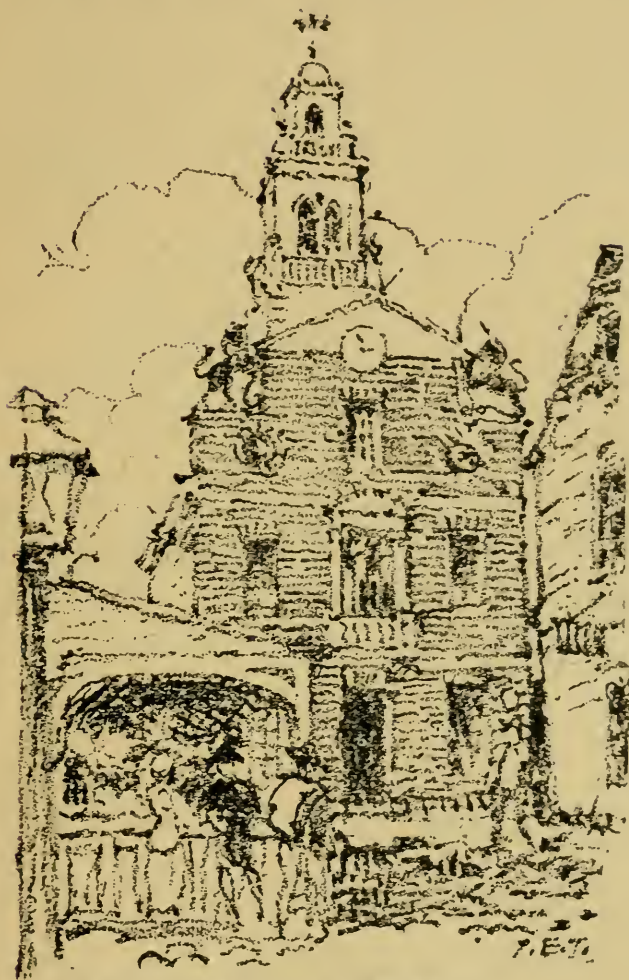
however, have filled their spaces with entertainment and goods appropriate to Colonial days. To those particularly interested in architecture it should be noted that "Colonial Style" is divided into two progressive divisions—first, Early American from 1630 to 1700, represented by the Pilgrim settlement, Paul Revere House, and House of Seven Gables; and second, the Georgian 1700-1800, which includes all the rest.

Entering the village from Lief Erikson Drive into High Street we pass between great gates surmounted with eagles modeled by Samuel McIntire in Salem. Proceeding and keeping to the left we find:

1. SIGN OF THE BLUE ANCHOR. Late Georgian about 1800 in the style of McIntire. In the second story is the office of the village. Turn left into Meeting Street.

2. PAUL REVERE HOUSE. Early American—1650. Note projecting second story, leaded glass casements, absence of ornament. Occupied by Paul Revere, patriot and silversmith, between 1700-1800. Through its doors he went forth for his famous midnight ride.

3. TURN LEFT INTO MILK STREET  
with its booths and we face



*Old State House Boston*

4. OLD STATE HOUSE. This is a much reduced reproduction of the famous Boston State House built in 1713 and designed in

England—note the Royal Lion and Unicorn.  
At the left are

5. STOCKS AND PILLORY,  
a favorite method in Colonial  
days of advertising the fact that  
misbehavior didn't pay.

*The VILLAGE  
PILLORY*



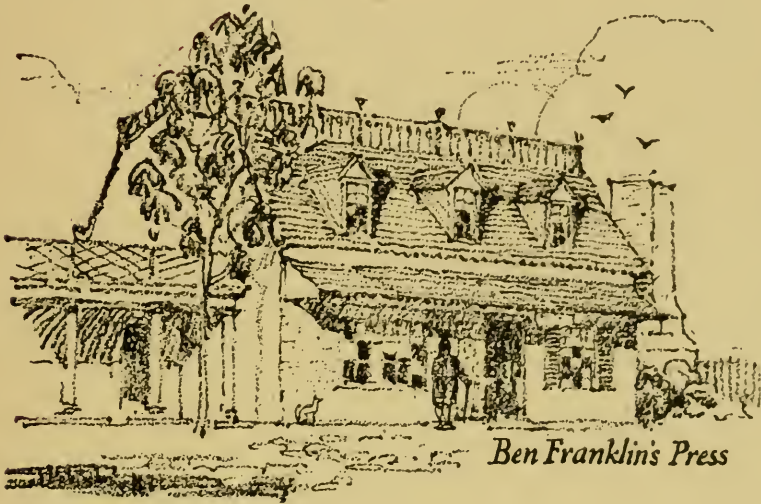
*from The Colonial Village*

6. PIRATE'S GAOL. The sort of building  
that might have stood in the port of New  
York and housed Captain Kidd and other  
unwilling guests.

7. COCK LOFT LANE, named from an  
old locality in Knickerbocker New York,  
contains shops of various kinds including a  
Grog Shop, over which is a figure of "Uncle  
Toby" in the Staffordshire manner. "Wooden  
Indians" were not popular until nearly the  
Civil War period. Returning to Milk Street  
we find on the left

8. THE HOUSE OF SEVEN GABLES,  
a reproduction, with liberties, of the Early  
American House built in 1668 in Salem and  
made famous by Hawthorne's novel. Note  
its similarity in style to its neighbor, The  
House of Paul Revere.

9. THE SIGN OF THE SUN DIAL—  
it is not based on any particular building but  
represents the vigorous style of Sir Christo-  
pher Wren, whose influence in the Colonies  
as architect and scientist was very great.

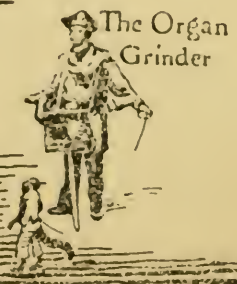
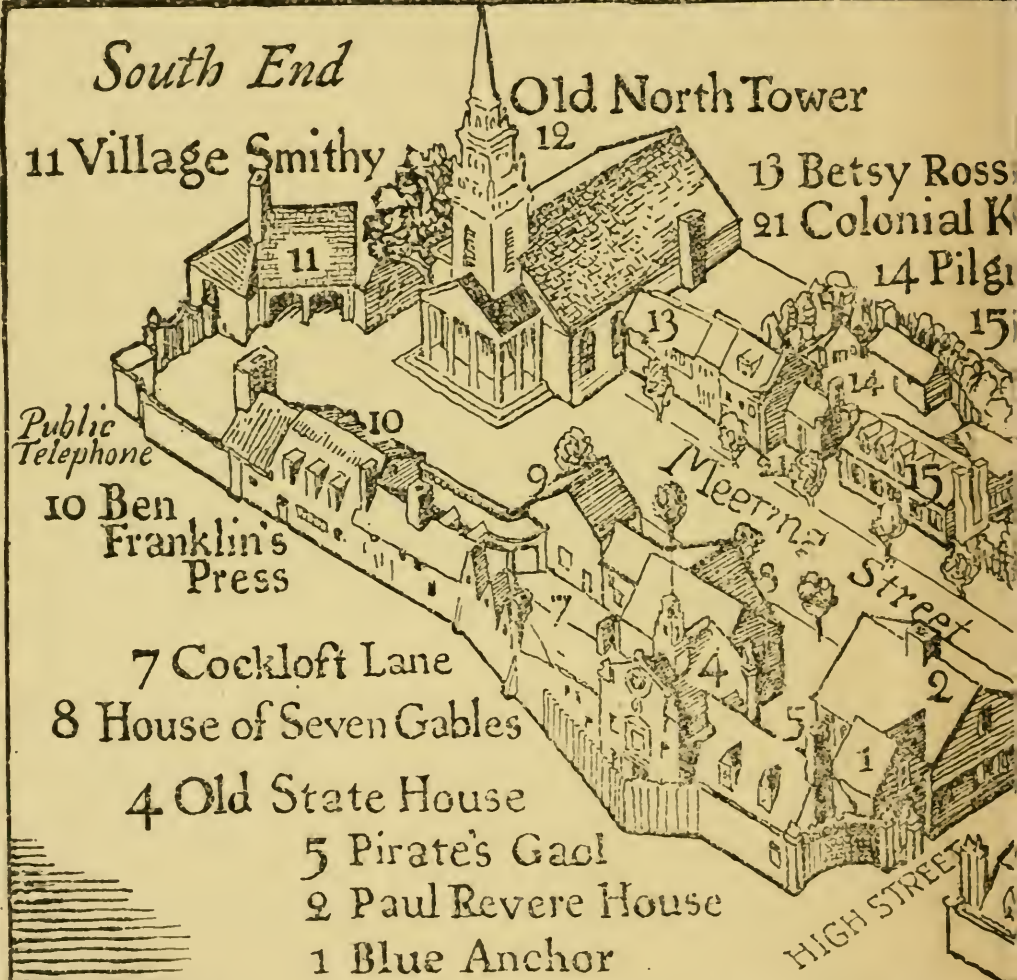
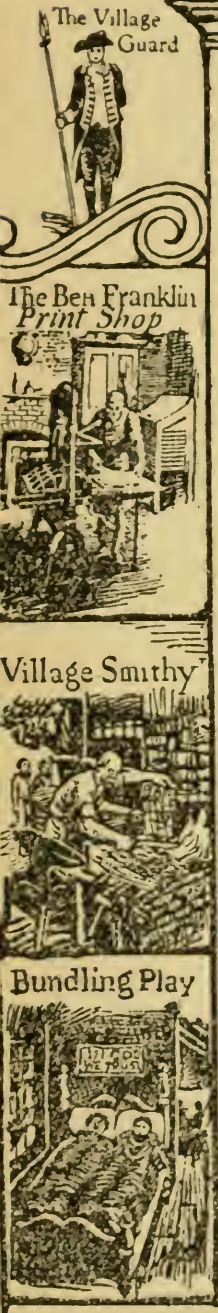


10. BEN FRANKLIN'S PRESS—This is  
not a reproduction of any building that Frank-  
lin occupied, but is typical of buildings in  
Southern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.



# COLONIAL

## At A Century of Prog



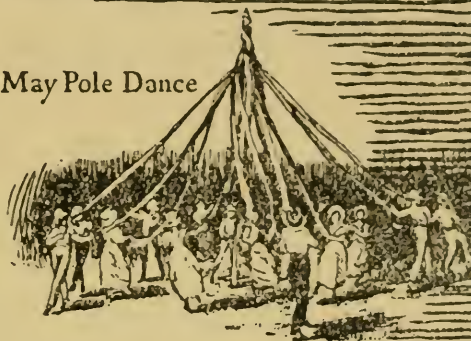


# VILLAGE

ress-In Chicago·MCMXXXIV

ouse  
chen  
Settlement  
Washington's Birthplace  
Governor's Mansion  
16  
Old Glory  
17

May Pole Dance



Information Booth

The Wayside Inn  
18



ge Green



Mt. Vernon  
19

Colonial Garden  
& Artist's Colony 20

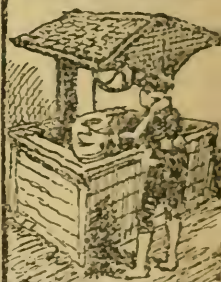
The Red Man



The Pillory



The Old Well



The Village Witch



The Drum Corps



11. VILLAGE SMITHY — "Beneath the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy stands." Longfellow immortally described an institution of romance and necessity—present in every Colonial village.

*Tower of old  
North Church*



12. TOWER OF OLD NORTH  
(CHRIST'S) CHURCH—Boston. Built in

1723 (reduced). As every one knows, the original has no portico. This was added for convenience and beauty and is typical of churches in the latter part of the century. From the belfry were hung the signal lanterns. "One if by land and two if by sea" that spurred Paul Revere forth in his immortal ride on April 18, 1775.



*Betsy Ross House*

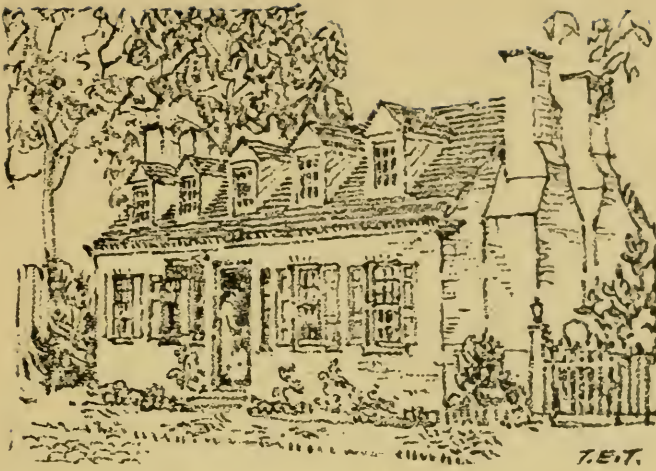
*J.E.T.*

13. BETSY ROSS SHOP, built about 1700.  
A copy of the famous house in Philadelphia  
where Betsy Ross designed and made for  
General Washington the American flag. We  
turn left into



*Schoolhouse, Pilgrim Settlement*

14. PILGRIM SETTLEMENT — 1620.  
These little houses are highly conjectural.  
We know from accounts that the colonists  
everywhere built rough shelters of logs and  
rough hewn timber until more finished  
houses could be constructed, but none has  
survived.



*Wakefield, Va. Birthplace of Washington*

15. WAKEFIELD — Virginia, the birthplace of Washington, reduced. The original of this building is a conjectural restoration recently completed. The interior is based on the living room only. The Virginia building is of red brick, but brick houses were often white-washed in Colonial days.

16. THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION. The royal Governors before the Revolution lived in considerable magnificence, especially in the South. In Williamsburg, Virginia, now nearly completed, is a splendid restoration of a similar building on much larger scale, with out-buildings and gardens.

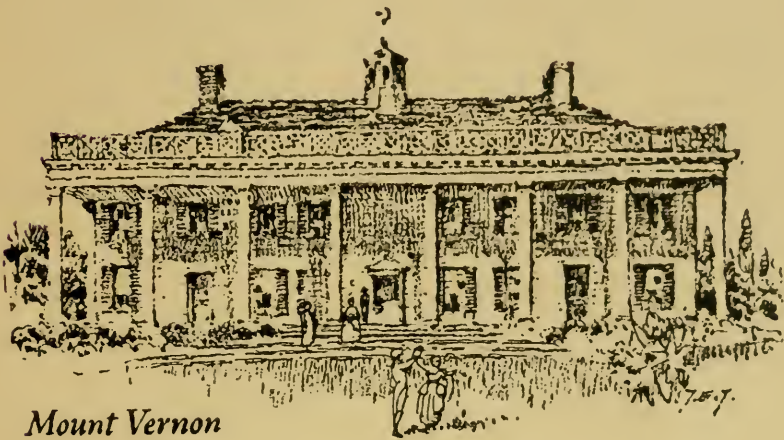


*Governor's Mansion*

17. THE LIBERTY POLE AND OLD GLORY.

18. THE WAYSIDE INN. This and the Virginia Tavern opposite, owing to the practical exigencies of feeding many people, suggest rather than imitate their models, the Wayside Inn at Sudbury, Mass., built in 1685, immortalized by Longfellow in his "Tales of a Wayside Inn" and recently restored by Henry Ford, and the Raleigh Tavern in Williamsburg, redolent with Colonial history, restored by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. We now

arrive at the Village Green; at its head crowning the village is the nation's most precious shrine.



*Mount Vernon*

19. MOUNT VERNON. The original building is closely copied at eight-ninths of its size. Here the interior is finished, as well, and except for the absence of the staircase carries out the original arrangement. The building is presided over by the Daughters of the American Revolution, who with the aid of friends have beautifully furnished it, in the style of the period. Most of the furnishings are antiques. The central part of Mount Vernon was built by Lawrence Wash-

ington in 1743. George Washington, his half-brother, inherited it and during the Revolutionary War continued its rebuilding. Here the Father of his Country died in 1799. Back of Mount Vernon are flower gardens laid out in Colonial manner, and from there one can depart from the 18th Century through the

20. ARTISTS' COLONY. Where pictures are made and portraits painted in the styles of the past and present.

ONE must not get from this guide the impression that the pleasures or even the importance of the Colonial Village lie solely in its architecture. Complimenting the architecture and reflecting the spirit of its age is an elaborate entertainment which reflects, as far as possible, the lighter aspects of life in Colonial days. Mount Vernon doesn't really live until the Spirit of '76 marches forth from its portals or until the minuet is danced on the Village Green. The frailties of Colonial life, for they were as human as we, are set forth in Cockloft lane. Here is a little Colonial theatre where at frequent intervals, a very amusing and authentic playlet on the subject of "bundling" is produced. It is curious that the idea of "bundling", so shocking to the Victorians, was approved by the stern moralists of Puritan days.

Reverting finally to the more decorous vicinity of Meeting Street, one will find in the two inns, previously mentioned, excellent cooking done in the Colonial manner. Here on the terraces with the stately facade of Mount Vernon on one side and the vista of the Village street on the other is the best place, perhaps, to digest the contents of this little guide.

